

CHARLOTTE JOURNAL.

VOL. VII.]

Charlotte, (N. C.) May 19, 1837.

[NO. 346.]

T. J. Holton, Proprietor and Publisher.

TERMS:

TWO DOLLARS, if paid in advance.
Two Dollars and Fifty Cents, if not paid within three months.
Three Dollars, if not paid until the end of the year.
A failure to notify the Editor of a wish to discontinue, at the end of the year, will be considered a new engagement.
Advertisements inserted at the usual rates.

Agent—Major R. M. Cochran is appointed an agent for the Journal, and is authorized to receive money and give receipts in my name. T. J. H.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

MAY.	Sun	Sun	MOON'S PHASES.
1837.	rise, sets.	set, rises.	
Friday,	5 07 0		For May, 1837.
Saturday,	5 59 7	1	D. N. M.
Sunday,	4 58 7	2	New 4 1 40 a.m.
Monday,	4 57 7	3	First 12 11 18 a.m.
Tuesday,	4 57 7	3	Full 20 2 7 morn.
Wednesday,	4 56 7	4	Last 26 6 45 even.
Thursday,	4 55 7	5	

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the United States Gazette.

HE ASKED TOO SOON.

Jeepily 'He came too late,' by Miss Bogue.
He asked too soon—ere he did prove
The magic of delay.
He asked, ere woman learn'd to love,
And cast his heart away;
She felt no thrill, when his true hands
Did warmly press her own,
His vows and prayer's were lightly scan'd,
Too soon his heart was known.

He asked too soon—a wayward thing
Is woman's love when sought,
The heart's best treasure it will fling
On him who'll prize it not.
She felt no thrill, when his true hands
Did warmly press her own,
His vows and prayer's were lightly scan'd,
Too soon his heart was known.

He asked too soon—th' opposing thought,
And blended feelings known,
In her, whom love has truly taught
His tyrant away to own,
A hope to gain the seeming lost,
The fear that's won will fly,
Perplexed by doubt, by passion toss'd,
All this her soul must try.

He asked too soon—she view'd his worth
With calculation cold,
He'd fame, he'd merit, gentle birth,
And wealth of thought untold,
But he did ask, ere passion threw,
Romance around his name,
And when the maid his feelings knew,
She felt no kindred flame.

J. B. C.

From the Trenton Emporium.

THE LAST HERRING.

• Hoot away despair!
Never yield to sorrow—
The bluest sky may wear
A sunny face to-morrow."

It was Saturday night, and the widow of the Time Cottage sat by her blazing fire, with her five tattered children at her side, endeavoring by listening to the artless tales of their juvenile prattle, to dissipate the heavy gloom that pressed upon her mind. For a year, her own feeble hands had provided for her helpless family, for she had no friend in all the wide, unfriendly world around. But that mysterious providence, the wisdom of whose ways are above human comprehension, had visited her with wasting sickness, and her little ones had become exhausted. It was now, in midwinter, and the snow lay heavy and deep through all the surrounding forests, while storms still seemed gathering in the heavens, and the driving wind roared amidst the bending pines, and rocked her puny mansion.

The last herrings smoked upon the coals before her; it was the only article of food she possessed; and no wonder if her forlorn little state brought up in her lone bosom the anxieties of a mother when she looks upon her children; and no wonder, for as she was, if she suffered the heart-rending feelings of despair to rise, even though she knew that her whose promise is to the widow, and the orphan, cannot forget his word. Providence had many years before sent from her eldest son, who went from the forest home to try his fortune on the plains, since which she had heard no more of him; and in later times she had, by the hand of death, been deprived of the companion and staff of her worldly pilgrimage, in the person of her husband. Yet to her hour she had been upborne; she had not only been able to provide for her little flock, but had never lost one opportunity ministering to the wants of the miserable and destitute.

The indigent may well bear with poverty, while the ability to gain sustenance remains. The individual who has but his own wants to supply, may suffer with fortitude the winter of want, his affections are not wounded, his breast not wrong. The most desolate in populous cities may hope, for charity has not quite closed her hand of heart, and shut her eyes on misery. But the industrious mother of helpless and dependent children—far from the reach of human charity, has none of these to console her. And such a one was the widow of the Time Cottage; but as she bent over the fire and took up the last scanty remnant of food to spread before her children, her spirit seemed to brighten up as by some sudden and mysterious impulse, and Cowper's

beautiful lines came uncalled across her mind—

Judge not the Lord by feeble senses,
But trust him for his grace,
Behind a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face.

The smoked herring was scarcely laid upon the table, when a gentle rap at the door, and loud barking of the dog, attracted the attention of the family. The children flew to open it, and a weary traveller in tattered garments, and apparently indifferent health, entered and begged a lodging, and a mouthful of food; "for," said he, "it is now twenty-four hours since I tasted bread." The widow's heart bled anew, as under a fresh complication of distresses; for her sympathies lingered not round her fire-side. She hesitated not even now; rest and share of all she had, she proffered to the stranger. "We shall not be forsaken," said she, "or suffer deeper for an act of charity."

The traveller drew near the board—but when he saw the scanty fare, he raised his eyes toward heaven in astonishment—"and is this all your store," said he—"and a share of this do you offer to one you know not?—then never saw I charity before! but, madam," said he continuing, "do you not wrong your children by giving part of their last mouthful to a stranger?" "Ah," said the poor widow, and the tear drops gushed into her eyes as she said it, "I have a boy, a darling son, somewhere on the face of the wide world, unless heaven has taken him away, and I only act toward you as I would that others should act toward him. God, who sent manna from heaven, can provide for us as he did for Israel—and how should this offend him, if my son should be a wanderer, destitute as you, and he should have provided for him a home even poor as this—were I to turn you unrelieved away."

The widow ended, and the stranger, springing from his seat, clasped her in his arms—"God has indeed provided such a home for your wandering son—and has given him wealth to reward the goodness of his benefactors—my mother! oh my mother!"

It was her long lost son returned to her bosom from the Indies, abounding in riches. He had chosen that disguise, that he might the more completely surprise his family; and never was surprise more perfect, or followed by a sweeter cup of joy. That humble residence in the forest was exchanged for one comfortable, and indeed beautiful in the valley, and the widow lived long with her dutiful son, in the enjoyment of virtue, and at this day the passer-by is often pointed to the luxuriant willow that spreads its branches broad and green above her grave, while he listens to the recital of this simple, homely, but not altogether worthless tale.

A good one.—Preserved Fish, (rather a funny name, but nevertheless the bona fide cognomen of a leading New York democrat,—one of the wealthy aristocrats of that school.)—promised, some years since, to run through the streets of New York unbreeched, and with his lower integuments in a state of perfect undity, if the rammany party should ever be defeated in the Seventh ward. Well—at the late election, rammany was routed in the Seventh, horse, foot and dragons; and now the Whig papers are constantly taunting Preserved Fish with his promise. "Remember thy vow!" is perpetually ringing in his ears; and in the hope that he will fulfill his pledge, the Whig committee have voted him a short shirt to run the race in. It will be glorious sport. —Lynchburg Virginian.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, April 19.—Steam-boating—there were yesterday at the public landing, at one time, twenty-four steam boats, loading and unloading; this is the largest number we ever knew of; there have frequently been from twenty to twenty-two this season, which is more than we ever heard of in any former one. For the information of distant readers, it is necessary to observe, that the number spoken of are exclusive of the large number that are lying at the other landings, finishing or repairing.

Sporting in the South.—In an account of a late horse race near New Orleans, it is mentioned that the person who took the money for the admission of spectators to the course, could not tell exactly how much he received, as he did not find time to count it, but he sent into the city that evening two barrels of half dollars!

Western Liberality.—The amount of money subscribed in one church at Peoria, Illinois, during the past six months, was TWENTY THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS, of which 20,000 were for the endowment of a college, the remainder for religious purposes.

"At the late term of the Court, Mr. Henry Mayder was fined \$100 for leading Jas. Tyne through the streets by the hair of his head."—Saco Democrat.

The fine was an outrage. Had not Mr. Mayder, like every other man, a perfect right to "take Tyne by the forelock?"—Louisville Journal.

TRAGICAL SCENE.

We witnessed the most tragical scene at Yancy Superior Court, that has ever been acted in any court in North Carolina. The facts were as follows: About two years since a man by the name of John Wilson, married Elizabeth Rey of that county. They lived together about seven weeks, when some disturbance took place which caused their separation. Six months ago the husband filed a petition for divorce, setting forth various causes—declaring that he was young and inexperienced when he married her, and was not acquainted with her true character, that her conduct during the time they lived together, was insupportable, and by him could not be endured. She answered, that they were raised in the same neighborhood, and had known each other from their infancy up; that he knew her character and circumstances in life perfectly well when he married her, and had taken her with his eyes open to all her frailties; she positively denied ever having been guilty of any misconduct, during the time they lived together, but that she acted towards him the part of an affectionate wife. She farther asserted that when he was about to leave her, he made no charges against her, but gave as his reason for separation, that he did not nor had he ever loved her; that his friends had induced him to marry her merely for her property, and that he had ascertained he could not enjoy life with a woman he did not love.

At the last court an issue was made up and submitted to a Jury. The petition and answer having been read, evidence was then introduced which proved decidedly in favor of the petitioner. On the part of the plaintiff the case was submitted without any argument, but the counsel for the defendant resisted the divorce by a long and feeling speech, in which he alluded to the solemnity of the marriage vow, the mutual duties it imposed on the parties, and the want of sufficient cause in that case to dissolve the bonds of matrimony.

During this investigation the parties were both in court. The husband was apparently young and simple, and in fact a mere boy, and there was nothing in the least prepossessing in his appearance. The wife seemed something older, and altogether the superior. She is a fine looking woman, with dark hair, black eyes and very expressive face; she manifested great interest in the trial.

The Jury after retiring a few moments, returned a verdict for the plaintiff. The parties were still in their seats behind the bar, some six or eight feet distant from each other, the wife asked a gentleman by whom she was sitting for his knife as if to trim her finger nails; she felt of the edge, rose to her feet, paused a moment, turned pale, her eyes flashed fire, and she suddenly sprang forward with the drawn knife and aimed at her husband a deadly blow. But fortunately, a lady who was standing by saw her get the knife, and perceived from her countenance that she was meditating something of a desperate character, watched her until she saw the blow aimed at the throat of the unsuspecting husband, she instantly seized the arm of the infuriated wife and diverted the weapon from the object at which it was aimed; but determined at her hellish purpose, she threw the knife with great violence at her husband and turning, made a most furious attack on her whose hand had arrested the blow and thwarted the wicked design. The court ordered her into custody; she was arrested and borne out of the court, making the most wild and frantic exclamations—calling to her husband in the most tender and passionate language, and seemed to be entirely deranged.

Her conduct was strange and unaccountable, but all who witnessed the scene agree that she must have loved her husband. She had listened attentively to the investigation of the whole matter, heard the pathetic speech of her counsel, and then the verdict of the Jury pronouncing their final separation; she felt that she loved him above all others, and the idea that he was then at liberty to marry again (for that was said to be his object) was more than she could endure. Her heart was devoted to him, and sooner than see him pledged to another she would see him die, and that too by her own hand, in the presence of the court and the multitude that surrounded her. Of the consequences to herself she never thought, nor for them cared; they could not have been greater than death, and no doubt she felt at that moment that she would gladly take refuge in the arms of death. She remained in jail until the next morning, when she was brought before the court, and after being severely reprimanded, was sentenced to five days imprisonment, for contempt to the court, and required to give bond and security for her good behavior for the next twelve months.—Rutherford Gazette.

Cure for a Cough.—Take a lump of alum the size of a hen's egg, put it into a quart of molasses, and simmer the same over the fire in an earthen vessel till the alum is dead, and when cool take a spoonful as often as you feel the cough coming on, and in a short time you will get relief.

POLITICAL.

EXTRACTS

From the Journal of the Select Committee of the House of Representatives, to investigate the Executive Departments.

TESTIMONY OF HON. HUGH L. WHITE.
A communication in writing, in answer to the interrogatory put to the Hon. Hugh L. White was received through the chairman and read to the committee as follows:

The oath administered to me was "to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?" &c. After being thus sworn, the interrogatory put to me is in the words following:

Question. "Do you of your own knowledge, know of any act by either of the heads of the Executive Departments which is either corrupt, or a violation of their official duties?"

From the manner in which the question is worded, it is somewhat difficult for me to determine to what extent I ought to proceed in my answer. I presume it could not be the meaning of the committee to constitute me judge of what shall be considered corruption, or a violation of official duty, by any of the heads of the Executive Departments. If so, I might believe facts within my knowledge did not amount to either corruption, or a violation of official duty, and on that account omit any statement whatever; or, on the other hand, state facts which I believe prove one or the other, when the whole committee might disagree with me in opinion, and consider disclosures entirely useless; as not tending to prove any impropriety whatever. In this situation, I presume I shall best discharge my duty by telling what I may know falling within the range of either of the Executive Departments, and such circumstances as may tend to show the motive with which the act was done or omitted, leaving it to the committee to determine whether any statements I may make will be of use or not in their investigation.

Of my knowledge I do not know of any frauds actually practised either as to the sale of the public lands, or in the purchase of Indian reservations; yet, from information I have received, in which I confide, I do believe great frauds have been practised, and are yet going on, as to both; and that in some of these, our own officers or agents have been, and now are, concerned or interested; and that if the committee will call upon persons who were and yet are in the vicinity of the places where those transactions have taken place, to disclose what they know, these frauds, and those concerned in them, can be ascertained. Whether the heads of either of the departments are liable to be censured for any of these acts, the committee will of course decide for themselves, when they shall have ascertained all the facts.

In the year 1830, the system now going on for removing the Indians, with their consent, out of the limits of the States and Territories, and settling them west of the Mississippi, was sanctioned by Congress. It has been progressing as rapidly as possible ever since. The duties relating to this branch of business pertained to the War Department.

At the session of Congress for the years 1831 and 1832, and near the time when a short session would have terminated, the secretary of war came to me, as chairman of the committee on Indian Affairs; and stated that duties were becoming so onerous that he could not discharge them without an alteration in the Indian Department; that the gentleman who was then at the head of the Indian Bureau, and who was then receiving a salary of fourteen or sixteen hundred dollars, though a very amiable man, was entirely incapable of discharging his duties in such a manner as to give that aid which the public interest required; that he had drafted a bill to create the office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with a salary of three thousand dollars per annum, which he wished me to introduce, and endeavor to have passed into a law. I informed him that the session had then so far advanced, and the opposition to the Indian system was so strong, that I doubted it would be out of my power, beside, that some of the appointments which had been made, were, in my opinion, injudicious; and that if this office were created, and filled by a person so incompetent as he represented the person then at the head of the Indian Bureau to be, the public business would be no better done, and there would be necessarily a considerable increase of expense, and that I was unwilling to move on the subject, unless I could be assured, if the office was created, it shall be well filled. This he assured me should be done. I then requested him to speak with the chairman of the Committee of Indian Affairs of the House, and if his co-operation could be procured, I would on my part, do all in my power to give effect to his wishes.

The bill was introduced, and, owing to the strong representation made of the necessity for its passage, the opposition in the Senate was withdrawn, and the law was passed. Congress adjourned, and no appointment of Commissioner was made until the next session; and then the same gentleman whose supposed incompetency at the head of the Indian Bureau, with a small salary, had given rise to this law, was nominated to fill the office of Commissioner, to which was attached the salary of \$5,000 per annum. The nomination was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and they reported, recommending that the nomination should be confirmed. At that session I happened to be in the chair; and when I heard the report, withdrew from the chair, and spoke to the gentleman who made the report; told him what passed between the Secretary and myself, and that I felt it due to the Senate and to the country that the facts should be disclosed, so that the nomination might be acted on with a full understanding of the facts. He told me he would have the nomination laid on the table, until he could see the Secretary, and have his explanation on the subject. He did so, and afterwards informed me he had seen and conversed with the Secretary, and communicated to him my statement; and that the Secretary admitted my statement to be true, as to what passed between us, but that after the passage of the law Mr. Herring had devoted himself to acquiring a knowledge of the duties pertaining to the office, and was then well qualified to discharge them. Under this statement I said nothing further, and the nomination was confirmed; and it did so happen that, although I never heard Mr. Herring's integrity called in question, yet his want of capacity was admitted by all with whom I conversed before he quit the office.

During the last session he was appointed paymaster, and Mr. C. A. Harris appointed Commissioner, who, so far as I can judge, is a most faithful, competent and efficient officer.

I think the public interest suffered much from the incompetency of Mr. Herring while he was in office; and that it will take some time still to come before his successor, with all his zeal, watch-

fulness and industry, will be enabled to make those reforms which the public interest requires.

I feel that I should do the late Secretary injustice were I to stop here. I do not believe he intended to deceive me, or to injure the public when he promised me that if the office was created, it should be well filled; but that after it was created, as it connected itself with all the ramifications of the Indian Department, and the officer might have a very extensive influence, it was esteemed a matter of importance to have it filled with a decided friend to the gentleman who was then looked to by the President and many others as the person who ought to succeed the present Chief Magistrate; and that the Secretary was constrained to yield to an influence which he believed he had not the power successfully to resist. I am the more inclined to adopt this opinion, because from a very extensive intercourse with the Secretary relative to the Indian Affairs, I was impressed with the belief that in all cases where he was left free to pursue his own judgment, he was disposed to act with the utmost fairness, and with a strict regard to the public interest, and because I know, in a manner most satisfactory to myself, that, as early as 1831, (if not sooner,) when the first cabinet was dissolved, and a new one to be created, the President had fixed his mind upon the present President elect as the most suitable person to succeed him; and that with a view to procure harmony among the members of his political family, it was considered important to remove from the old cabinet three gentlemen, who, it was believed, did not coincide in opinion with him upon that subject, and form a new cabinet which would be a unit; that is, each member of it concurring with the President as to the person most proper to succeed him when his eight years of service should terminate.

When the old cabinet was broken up, it was not wished to have the services of Mr. Eaton; the intention and wish was, to put me in his place, and, with my aid in Tennessee, to have him elected to succeed me in the Senate.

This opinion as to the motive for the appointment of Mr. Herring is still further fortified and confirmed in my mind, from a belief that a very large portion of all the officers appointed from that time to this have been selected upon the same principles, and with a view to the same object.

Connected with this subject, and tending to show that I am most probably correct in the view which I have become acquainted with, which show that the President watched with care, and uniformly endeavored to prevent, every thing which would have the effect of enabling any other citizen to compete, successfully, with the gentleman who was his favorite. During the same session of 1832 or 1833, when Mr. Herring was appointed it will be remembered, the United States seemed to be on the eve of a civil war with South Carolina, on account of the tariff; and that a bill was sent to the House of Representatives from the Treasury Department, proposing a modification and reduction of it; that the provisions of that bill were so changed in the House, that it became very unacceptable to a large majority, and had no prospect of finally passing; that in this state of things, and after what was called the force bill had been considerably discussed in the Senate, Mr. Clay introduced what is commonly called the compromise bill, and, upon its second reading, it had been referred to a select committee, composed of seven members. This committee it was my duty, as presiding officer, to appoint. Before the members of it were named, I received a note from the President, requesting me to go to his house, as he wished to see me. I returned for answer, that while the Senate was in session it was out of my power to go, but that as soon as it adjourned, I would call on him. I felt the high responsibility resting on me in appointing the committee; the fate of the bill in a good degree, depended on it; and if the bill failed, we would probably be involved in a most painful conflict, I endeavored to make the best selection I could, by taking some tariff men, some anti-tariff, one nullifier, and Mr. Clay himself—hoping that a majority of a committee, in which all interests and views were represented, could agree on any thing it was likely it would pass. Taking these principles for my guide, I wrote down the names of seven members, Mr. Clayton of Delaware being one; and immediately before we adjourned, handed the names to the Secretary, with directions to put them on the journal, and in the course of the evening waited on the President. Soon after we met, he mentioned he had wished to see me on the subject of appointing a committee on Mr. Clay's bill, to ask that Mr. Clayton might not be put on it, as he was hostile to the administration, and unfriendly to Mr. McLane, he feared he would use his endeavors to have preference given to Mr. Clay's bill over that of the Secretary of the Treasury, or words to that effect. I observed, in answer that it would always give me great pleasure to conform to the wishes of my political friends, whenever I could do so with propriety, but that the Treasury bill had been so altered and mingled; and that, as I understood, in a good degree by the votes of his own party, that it had but few friends; that we seemed to be on the eve of a civil war, and that for the sake of averting such a calamity, I would further aid in my power any measure, come from whom it might, which would give peace to the country, and that any bill, having that for its object, was esteemed by me as a measure above party, and any man who was the author of it was welcome to all the credit he could gain by it. But at all events, it was too late to talk on the subject, as I had handed the names of the committee to the Secretary before we adjourned; and that as I had a very high opinion of Mr. Clayton's talents and liberal feelings, I had put him on the committee, without knowing he was personally unkind to the Secretary of the Treasury. He then asked me if I could not see the Secretary of the Senate that evening, and substitute some other name for Mr. Clayton, before the journal was made up; I told him I could not—in my judgment it would be wrong;—and then the interview terminated.

An incident occurred relative to an appointment, falling in with the business of the State Department, which I feel it my duty to state, but do not know that the Secretary of State had any participation in it.

At the session of 1833 and 1834, if my memory serves me, Mr. Stevenson, of Virginia, was nominated as minister to Great Britain, and his nomination rejected. At the session of 1834 and 1835, on the Sunday immediately preceding the close of the session, a gentleman called at my lodgings to see me, and informed me that he called, at the instance of the President, to consult me on the subject of again nominating Mr. Stevenson as minister to Great Britain; and to say, that if I believed a majority in the Senate could be procured to confirm the nomination, the name of Mr. Stevenson would be sent in; if not, no nomination would be made during the session. I observed to the gentleman, I could not give any answer, as I had heard